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Agenda item 9

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1990

Note by the Secretariat

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General is required to submit to the Council, at its first regular session, the provisional agenda for its second regular session. The Council's second regular session of 1990 is scheduled to be held at Geneva from 4 to 27 July 1990.

The present note contains, for the approval of the Council:

(a) The draft provisional agenda for the Council's second regular session (section I);

(b) A proposed organization of work and schedule of meetings (section II).

In pursuance of paragraph 10 of Council resolution 1989/114, the President of the Council held the necessary consultations with a view to ensuring the timely availability of the documentation for the Council's second regular session. A report on the status of documentation for the session will be issued as document E/1990/L.24.

The provisional agenda for the second regular session, as approved by the Council at the present session, will be issued with the relevant annotations as document E/1990/92.

CONTENTS

	Paragraphs	Page
I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA	1 - 2	3
II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK	3 - 15	4

I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The draft provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1990 of the Council, set out below, has been drawn up on the basis of the list of items approved by the Council at its organizational session for 1990 (decision 1990/201, sect. C) and the decisions taken to date by the Council at its first regular session of 1990.

2. Attention is drawn to the fact that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/229 on international co-operation in the field of the environment, took note, inter alia, of decision 15/4 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and supported its decision to hold a special session in 1990 of three days duration at the same location and in conjunction with the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The special session of the Governing Council is scheduled to be held at Nairobi from 1 to 3 August 1990. Bearing in mind the fact that General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) provides that the Governing Council shall report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, the Council may wish to decide whether to include an item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its special session" on the draft provisional agenda of its second regular session of 1990 for consideration at a resumed session of the Council or to authorize the Secretary-General to transmit the aforementioned report directly to the General Assembly for consideration.

Draft provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1990

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments.

3. Revitalization of the Economic and Social Council.

4. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

5. International co-operation in the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

6. Regional co-operation.

7. Development and international economic co-operation: 1/

1/ For its consideration of the item, the Council agreed on the following clustering of sub-items: first part, sub-item (a); second part, sub-item (b); third part, sub-items (d) and (g); fourth part, sub-items (c), (e) and (f).

(a) Trade and development;

(b) International development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade;

(c) World Food Council;

(d) Transnational corporations;

(e) Development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy;

(f) Development of the energy resources of developing countries;

(g) International co-operation in tax matters.

8. International co-operation in the field of informatics.

9. Operational activities for development.

10. Co-ordination questions.

11. Programme questions.

12. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

13. Disaster reduction and relief:

(a) International strategy for the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation, particularly in Africa;

(b) Disaster relief co-ordination.

14. Special economic and humanitarian assistance.

15. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. 2/

II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

3. The proposed programme of work for the second regular session of 1990 of the Council has been drawn up taking into account the guidelines provided by the Council in its resolution 1989/114 and on the availability of documentation.

2/ In accordance with Council resolution 1623 (L1) of 30 July 1971, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is transmitted to the General Assembly without debate, unless the Council decides otherwise, at the specific request of one or more of its members or of the High Commissioner, at the time its agenda is adopted.

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4. At its organizational session for 1990, the Council decided on the following allocation of items: items 1 to 4 and 15 would be considered in plenary; items 6 to 8 by the First (Economic) Committee; and items 9 to 14 by the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee (decision 1990/201, sect. D). The Council, at its first regular session of 1990, also decided that item 5 (International co-operation in the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant) would be considered in plenary (Council decision 1990/211).

5. The second regular session of the Council will open at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday, 4 July 1990 at 10.30 a.m.

A. Matters relating to items to be considered in plenary

6. In connection with item 2, the Council, in paragraph 20 of its resolution 1989/114 on further measures for the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/77, on the revitalization of the Council, decided that the general discussion on international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments, should not exceed four days and that statements made should not exceed 15 minutes in order to ensure that the general discussion is fully effective and substantive. At its organizational session for 1990, the Council, by decision 1990/201, section N, decided to focus in its general discussion on the issue of resources for development and external indebtedness of the developing countries.

7. Bearing in mind the guidelines provided by the Council in its resolution 1989/114, it is proposed that the general discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments (item 2), begin on Wednesday, 4 July, at 3 p.m. and end on Tuesday, 10 July. It is suggested that the list of speakers for the general discussion be opened in New York on Tuesday, 29 May, at 10.30 a.m. and be closed at Geneva on Wednesday, 4 July, at 6 p.m. 3/

8. In paragraph 22 of its resolution 1989/114, the Council decided that, after the conclusion of all the statements in the general discussion, one day should be devoted to an informal exchange of views among members of the Council, with the active participation of the executive heads of organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned. In this connection, at its organizational session for 1990, the Council decided to hold discussions during its second regular session of 1990 on the following issue: impact of the recent evolution of East-West relations on the growth of the world economy, in particular on the economic growth and development of the developing countries, as well as on international economic co-operation (Council decision 1990/205, para. 1 (a)). It is proposed that these discussions be held on Thursday, 12 July.

3/ Delegations wishing to take part in the general discussion are requested to notify the secretariat of the Economic and Social Council (Room S-2977-C, telephone 963-5734).

9. It may be noted that in its decision 1990/205, the Council considered that the aforementioned discussions would assist it in preparing for a high-level in-depth consideration of that theme in the context of its multi-year work programme over a period of two days in 1991.

10. In this connection it may be recalled that the Council, by its decision 1990/205, decided to discuss the aforementioned theme in 1991 as an urgent and emerging issue at a special meeting at an appropriately high level, without excluding the ministerial level, on 4 and 5 July 1991, during its second regular session of 1991. It decided that the special meeting should be separate from the regular proceedings of the Council and precede its general discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments. The Council further decided to invite the Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Council, to take the necessary measures to ensure adequate preparation for the special meeting, including the possibility of proposing at the second regular session of 1990 appropriate modalities for that purpose. It also invited all the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the successful outcome of the special meeting.

11. In accordance with established practice, the executive secretaries of the regional commissions will address the Council under item 2. In this connection, attention is drawn to the fact that the morning of Monday, 9 July, has been allocated for the statements of the executive secretaries. Bearing in mind the fact that, as in previous years, delegations will have an opportunity to have an informal exchange of views with the executive secretaries, members may wish to take note of that date.

12. At its organizational session for 1990, the Council also decided to devote one plenary meeting to the consideration of the question of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries under the item entitled "Development and international economic co-operation: trade and development" (decision 1990/201, sect. I). It is proposed that that discussion be held on the morning of Wednesday, 11 July.

B. Matters relating to the work of the sessional committees

13. In paragraph 23 of its resolution 1989/114, the Council decided that the sessional committees should not begin their substantive work until the conclusion of the general discussion and that, to the extent possible, those committees should devote more time to a constructive dialogue on the agenda items under consideration, with the active participation of representatives of the organizations of the United Nations system concerned. Accordingly, the First (Economic) Committee and the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee will begin their work on Wednesday, 11 July.

14. At its organizational session for 1990, in connection with the items for consideration at its second regular session, the Council, by decision 1990/201, decided:

(a) That, when considering the reports of the World Food Council on its sixteenth session and the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy on its fifth session, it would not consider new draft proposals, except for specific recommendations contained in those reports that required action by the Council and proposals on matters relating to the co-ordination aspects of the work of those bodies;

(b) To consider the report of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the second part of its thirty-sixth session and to authorize the Secretary-General to transmit directly to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session the report of the Board on the first part of its thirty-seventh session;

(c) To conduct its annual policy review of operational activities for development for 1990 and to focus on ways and means of ensuring the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/211, including the proposed three-year schedule for implementation of the resolution by all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

(d) That, when considering the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its thirty-seventh session, it would not consider the part of the report dealing with the United Nations Population Fund, except for the recommendations contained therein that require action by the Council.

C. Availability of conference services

15. The attention of the Council is drawn to the following conference-servicing aspects of the second regular session:

(a) From 4 to 10 July, interpretation facilities will be provided for plenary meetings only; thereafter and until 23 July, interpretation facilities will be provided for plenary meetings and meetings of the First (Economic) Committee and the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee to be held concurrently, as well as for informal meetings held in place of formal meetings. From 24 to 27 July, no meetings of the sessional committees are scheduled to be held;

(b) There is no provision for conference services for night meetings during the session;

(c) Beyond the conference services allocated to the Council (see subpara. (a) above), no additional services will be available for regional or group meetings. In the event of scheduled meetings being cancelled, it is anticipated that those services could be made available for such consultations;

(d) Unless otherwise specified, all meetings will begin punctually at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

D. Draft programme of work of the second regular session of 1990

(Geneva, 4-27 July 1990)

PLENARY

Week of 2-6 July		
Wednesday 4 July	10.30 a.m.	Opening of the session Item 1: Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	3 p.m.	Item 2: General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments
	6 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on item 2
Thursday 5 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 2 (continuation of general discussion)
Friday 6 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 2 (continuation of general discussion)
Week of 9-13 July		
Monday 9 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 2 (continuation of general discussion) Statements by the executive secretaries of the regional commissions
Tuesday 10 July	10 a.m.	Item 2 (conclusion of general discussion)
	6. p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on the question of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (item 7 (a)) and on the question of the convening of an international meeting on population in 1994 (item 1)

Wednesday 11 July	10 a.m.	Item 7: Development and international economic co-operation (a) Trade and development Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries 4/
	3 p.m.	Item 1: Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters Convening of an international meeting on population in 1994
Thursday 12 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Exchange of views with executive heads of organizations of the United Nations system on the question of the impact of the recent evolution of East-West relations on the growth of the world economy, in particular on the economic growth and development of the developing countries, as well as on international economic co-operation 5/
	12 noon	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 1 and 2
	6 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on item 5
Friday 13 July	10 a.m.	Item 5: International co-operation in the elimination of the consequences of the accident of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant Introduction of draft proposals under items 1 and 2
	3 p.m.	Informal consultations on plenary items
	6 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on items 3 and 4
Week of 16-20 July		
Monday 16 July	10 a.m.	Item 3: Revitalization of the Economic and Social Council
	3 p.m.	Item 4: Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under under item 5

4/ See Council decision 1990/201, sect. I.

5/ See paras. 8 and 9 above.

Tuesday 17 July	10 a.m.	Item 15: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 4
	3 p.m.	Introduction of draft proposals under item 5 followed by Informal consultations on plenary items
Wednesday 18 July	10 a.m.	Introduction of draft proposals under item 4 followed by Informal consultations on plenary items
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 3 and 15
	3 p.m.	Informal consultations on plenary items
Thursday 19 July	10 a.m.	Introduction of draft proposals under items 3 and 15 followed by Informal consultations on plenary items
	3 p.m.	Informal consultations on plenary items
Friday 20 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Informal consultations on plenary items
Week of 23-27 July		
Monday 23 July	10 a.m.	Informal consultations on plenary items
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 1, 4 and 5
Tuesday 24 July	10 a.m.	No meeting
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 2, 3 and 15

Wednesday 25 July	10 a.m.	No meeting
	3 p.m.	Consideration of reports of the sessional committees, as available
Thursday 26 July	3 p.m.	Consideration of reports of the sessional committees, as available
Friday 27 July	3 p.m.	Consideration of remaining reports of sessional committees Conclusion of the work of the second regular session of 1990

FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

Week of 9-13 July

Wednesday 11 July	3 p.m.	Election of officers Organization of work Item 6: Regional co-operation
	6 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on item 6
Thursday 12 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 6 (continuation of general discussion)
Friday 13 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 7: Development and international economic co-operation Item 7 (a): Trade and development Item 7 (b): International development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade
	1 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on items 7 (a) and (b) Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 6

Week of 16-20 July

Monday 16 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 7 (d): Transnational corporations Item 7 (g): International co-operation in tax matters
	1 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on items 7 (d) and (g) Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 7 (a) and (b)
Tuesday 17 July	10 a.m.	Items 7 (d) and (g) (continuation of general discussion)
	3 p.m.	Item 7 (c): World Food Council Item 7 (e): Development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy

Tuesday 17 July (continued)		Item 7 (f): Development of energy resources of developing countries Informal consultations
	6 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on items 7 (c), (e) and (f) Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 7 (d) and (g)
Wednesday 18 July	10 a.m.	Items 7 (c), (e) and (f) (continuation of general discussion)
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 6 and 7 (a) and (b)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 7 (c), (e) and (f)
Thursday 19 July	10 a.m.	Informal consultations
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 7 (d) and (g)
Friday 20 July	10 a.m.	Informal consultations
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 7 (c), (e) and (f) Conclusion of the work of the First (Economic) Committee

THIRD (PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION) COMMITTEE

Week of 9-13 July

Wednesday 11 July	10 a.m.	Election of officers Organization of work Item 13: Disaster reduction and relief (introduction and general discussion) (a) International strategy for the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation, particularly in Africa (b) Disaster relief co-ordination Item 14: Special economic and humanitarian assistance (introduction and general discussion)
	3 p.m.	Item 13 (continuation of general discussion) Item 14 (continuation of general discussion)
	6 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on items 13 and 14
Thursday 12 July	10 a.m.	Item 13 (continuation of general discussion) Item 14 (continuation of general discussion)
	3 p.m.	Item 13 (conclusion of general discussion) Item 14 (conclusion of general discussion) Item 12: Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (introduction and general discussion)
	6 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on item 12
Friday 13 July	10 a.m.	Item 12 (conclusion of general discussion)
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 13 and 14

Friday 13 July (continued)	3 p.m.	Item 10: Co-ordination questions (introduction and general discussion)
		Item 11: Programme questions
	6 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on items 10 and 11
		Items 10 and 11 (continuation of general discussion)
Week of 16-20 July		
Monday 16 July	10 a.m.	Item 10 (continuation of general discussion)
		Item 11 (continuation of general discussion)
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 12
	3 p.m.	Item 10 (conclusion of general discussion)
		Item 11 (conclusion of general discussion)
Tuesday 17 July	10 a.m.	Item 9: Operational activities for development (introduction and general discussion)
	1 p.m.	Closure of list of speakers on item 9
		Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 10 and 11
	3 p.m.	Item 9 (conclusion of general discussion)
Wednesday 18 July	10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 9 (conclusion of general discussion)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 9
Thursday 19 July	10 a.m.	Informal consultations
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 12, 13 and 14

Friday 20 July	10 a.m.	Informal consultations
	3 p.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under items 10, 11 and 12

Week of 23-27 July

Monday 23 July	10 a.m.	Action on draft proposals submitted under item 9
		Conclusion of the work of the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee

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Agenda item 3

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Bolivia*+: draft resolution

Enlargement of the Commission on Human Rights and the further promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/167 of 15 December 1989,

Recognizing the responsibilities of the Commission on Human Rights under the Charter of the United Nations,

Appreciating the contribution made by the Commission on Human Rights to the cause of human rights and recognizing the need to reinforce it,

Reaffirming that the Commission on Human Rights shall be guided by the standards in the field of human rights laid down in the various international instruments concerned with the protection and the promotion of human rights,

Aware of the fact that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as legitimate concerns of the world community should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and should not be used for political ends,

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

\+ On behalf of the Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

Emphasizing the importance of further improving the effective functioning of the Commission in the field of of human rights,

Convinced that in order to achieve universally recognized objectives, improvements in the functioning of the Commission and measures of rationalization should be a matter for continuous consideration,

Taking note of the relevant section of the final document of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries adopted at Belgrade on 7 September 1989 stating the need to strengthen the role and efficiency of the United Nations and to reinforce United Nations mechanisms,

Stressing that the Special Rapporteur and working groups established by the Commission on Human Rights are some of the key elements in analysing, reporting and monitoring human rights, which are essential for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all countries,

Noting decision 1990/115 of 9 March 1990 of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. Decides that the membership of the Commission on Human Rights shall be increased to fifty-three and that the ten additional seats should be allocated among the regional groups of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean on the basis of the principle of equitable geographical distribution;

2. Further decides that the enlarged membership of the Commission on Human Rights shall be elected in 1991 and that the provisions contained in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 below shall take effect at the forty-eighth session of the Commission;

3. Authorizes the Commission on Human Rights to meet exceptionally between its regular sessions, provided a majority of State members of the Commission so agrees;

4. Recommends that the mandates of the Thematic Rapporteurs and working groups established or to be established by the Commission shall, unless otherwise decided, be of three years' duration, requests the Secretary-General to provide the Rapporteurs and working groups with all necessary assistance to carry out their mandates in the best possible conditions, and calls on all Governments to co-operate fully with them and to support and promote their activities by ensuring unhampered access to all relevant sources of information;

5. Decides that, in the week following the session of the Commission on Human Rights, the Bureau shall meet to make suggestions as to the organization of work of the Commission, including the effective use of conference time and facilities;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the organizational implications of the present resolution for consideration by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session and subsequent submission of the Commission's observations to the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1991.

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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document E/1990/L.26

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. Under the terms of draft resolution E/1990/L.26, the Economic and Social Council would:

(a) Decide that the membership of the Commission be increased to 53 (para. 1);

(b) Authorize the Commission on Human Rights to meet exceptionally between its regular sessions, provided a majority of States members of the Commission so agree (para. 3);

(c) Recommend that the mandate of the thematic rapporteurs and working groups established or to be established by the Commission, unless otherwise decided, be of three years' duration (para. 4);

(d) Decide that, in the week following the session of the Commission on Human Rights, the Bureau shall meet to make suggestions as to the organization of work of the Commission, including the effective use of conference time and facilities (para. 5);

(e) Further decide that the provisions contained in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the draft resolution would take effect at the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights (para. 2).

2. The enlargement of the Commission would give rise to additional expenditures estimated at $23,000 per session of the Commission, which represents provision for

travel of 10 additional members to the Commission. On the assumption that the enlarged membership would be elected in 1991 and that the first meeting of the enlarged Commission would take place in 1992, there would be no additional requirements for the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. However, as regards the next biennium, provision for the enlarged membership would be made in the context of the programme budget outlined and would subsequently be reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

3. With regard to intersessional meetings of the Commission and the duration of the mandates of the thematic rapporteurs and working groups, provisions which will not take effect before 1992, their organizational implications would be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session, in 1991, and to the first regular session of 1991 of the Economic and Social Council, as requested in paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.

4. Should the Economic and Social Council adopt the draft resolution contained in document E/1990/L.26, there would be no additional requirements for the biennium 1990-1991.